OLD ENGLAND.

By ARGUS CENTOCULI, *Inſpector-General of* Great-Britain.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1750. [N°. 347.]

Concluſion of the Subject begun in our laſt.

THESE Articles, which before, as they commenced at different Times, were determinable at certain Periods, were now made perpetual, to anſwer the annual Intereſt of 5 *per Cent.* payable to the Bank, for the ſeveral Sums owing to that Company from the Government. And in caſe the aforeſaid Duties did not, in any one Year, produce ſo much as ſhould be ſufficient to anſwer the annual Sums chargeable on this Fund; ſuch Deficiency or Deficiencies were to be made good, out of the Aids granted by Parliament.

The *Southſea* Funds took in the following Heads:

The Impoſt on Wine and Vinegar; ditto, on Tobacco; ditto, on *Eaſt-India* Goods; additional Impoſitions on many Merchandizes; Duty on Salt; ditto, on Candles; ditto, on Apprentices.

To this Company was eſtabliſhed in the 8th of Qu. *Anne*, all Duties were made perpetual the next Year, for anſwering the Annuity of 6 *per Cent.* to the *Southſea* Company, including their Capital at the firſt Eſtabliſhment, and 8000 *l.* per Annum, allowed for Charges and Management. There being only a Renewal of their Perpetuity therefore, with the 8000 *l. per Annum*, at the lower Rate of 5 *per Cent.* the *Southſea* Act, of which I have here recited the Contents.

I muſt here juſt obſerve, that the Capital of a Company is not principal Sum, in which it is Creditor to the Public, but which in the late Reign, by Means that need not be mentioned, aroſe to the *Southſea*, fromTen to above Thirty Millions, many ſhort of which it is not at preſent.

With regard to Deficiencies, in caſe any ſhould happen from the aforeſaid Duties at the End of any one Quarter, either with regard to the 500,000 *l.* Intereſt on the Ten Millions Capital, or the 8000 *l.* Management, it was to be made good out of the Overplus Monies of any ſubſequent Quarter, or out of the General Fund.

It is to that General Fund we are now come, which ariſes from the Produce of the following Duties:

Duty on Coals, ſince the 8th of *March* 1711; Duty on Goods exported ſince ditto; ditto, on Candles ſince the 25th of *March* 1711; ditto, on Hides; ditto, on Paper, Cards and Dice; 700 *l. per* Week, Letter-Money; Duty on Rock-Salt; ditto, on Hackney Coaches and Chairs; ditto, on Soap; ditto, on Pamphlets and ſtamped Paper; ditto, on Wire and Starch; additional Duties on Hides, Starch and Drugs; a Moiety of the Duty on Coffee; ditto on the Duty on Tea; 39,855 *l.* taken out of 3700 *l. per* Week, out of the Hereditary Exciſe for Bankers Annuities.

Theſe Duties were firſt granted in the 9th of Q. *Anne*, for Thirty-two Years, to pay off the Principal of the Four Lotteries; amounting to 9,214,500 *l.* with Intereſt at 6 *per Cent.* But being now charged with other large annual Sums, it was likewiſe made perpetual, for the Security of the Creditors, until their reſpective Debts ſhould be redeemed by Parliament.

Notwithſtanding the Proviſion made in this Act, and the Four Millions and an Half in the Bank and *Southſea* Acts, not only for the long Annuitants, but for other public Creditors; the People were in no Haſte to withdraw their Money, but rather ſubmitted to the Reduction of their Intereſt and Annuities; the whole Demands on ready Money on this Occaſion, according to the Author of *the Conſiderations on the Public Funds*, not amounting to 500 *l.* A chief Reaſon, no doubt, of this general Satisfaction in the public Creditors, was the Proſpect they had in the laſt-recited Act, of having their Principal gradually paid off, as well as the good Security for their Intereſt as now ſettled: For it was by a Clauſe in this General Fund Act, that the famous Sinking Fund was eſtabliſhed. The Clauſe was in the following Words:

"That all the Monies to ariſe from Time to Time, as well of or for the ſaid Exceſs or Overplus, by virtue of the ſaid Act made for reducing the Funds of the ſaid Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*; and of and for the ſaid Exceſs or Surplus, by virtue of the ſaid Act made for redeeming the Funds of the ſaid Governor and Company of Merchants of *Great Britain*, trading to the *Southſeas*, and other Ports of *America*, and for encouraging the Fiſhery; as alſo of and for the ſaid Exceſs or Surplus of the ſaid Duties and Revenues by this Act appropriated as aforeſaid, and the ſaid Overplus Monies of the ſaid General Yearly Fund by this Act eſtabliſhed, or intended to be eſtabliſhed as aforeſaid,—ſhall be appropriated, reſerved and employed to and for the diſcharging the Principal and Intereſt of ſuch National Debts and Incumbrances as were incurred before the 25th Day of *December* 1716, and are declared to be National Debts, and are provided for by Acts of Parliament, in ſuch Manner and Form as ſhall be directed or appointed by any future Act or Acts of Parliament, to be diſcharged therewith or out of the ſame, and to and for none other Uſes, Intereſt, or Purpoſe whatſoever."

It may be proper here to take Notice, that the ſeveral Funds above, according to an Eſtimate delivered in on this Occaſion, by the Earl of *Halifax*, Auditor of the Receipt at the *Exchequer*, amounted to 3,118,448 *l.* Improvements are ſince thought to have riſen it to about Three Millions and a Half: And at the lowering of Intereſt upon the ſeveral Debts, increaſed the Surplus of the ſeveral Duties appropriated to thoſe Debts which conſtitutes the Sinking Fund, this new Reſource, at firſt only 400,000 *l.* was in few Years computed at a Million *per Annum*, and may now amount to between 2 and 300,000 *l.* more than that Sum.

This, and this only, is truly and properly the Sinking Fund, which has been by ſome Perſons miſtaken for the Groſs of all thoſe Funds above deſcribed and diſtinguiſhed: So that when One Million, or Twelve Hundred Thouſand Pounds, or even but Eight Hundred Thouſand Pounds, are taken from this Sum, beſides it's being charged with other Incumbrances, it follows, that little or nothing remains for the good Purpoſes for which it was appropriated.

It has been aſſerted on theſe Occaſions, by thoſe in Power, that, as the Neceſſities of the Government muſt be ſupplied, it is better to detach for that Purpoſe the Surplus of Funds already eſtabliſhed, and to which the People are accuſtomed, than to impoſe new Taxes for the Creation of new Funds, which will always be ſenſibly felt, and loudly complained of.—But to this it is eaſy to anſwer:

I. That ſuch Detachments are manifeſt Infractions of the Law by which the Sinking Fund was eſtabliſhed, which enacts, that ALL the Money to ariſe from Time to Time, by way of Exceſs or Overplus, from the ſeveral Funds therein mentioned, "ſhall be appropriated, reſerved and employed to "and for the diſcharging the Principal and Intereſt of ſuch "National Debts and Incumbrances as were incurred be"fore the 25th Day of *December* 1716, and are declared "to be National Debts — in ſuch *Manner* and *Form* as "ſhall be directed by any future Acts of Parliament, — "and to and for NONE OTHER USE, INTENT, OR PUR"POSE WHATSOEVER!"——Here ſeems to be nothing left to future Laws, but the Preſcription of *Form* and *Manner*; the Appropriation being abſolute, and, as it was at firſt underſtood, ſacred and invariable: And yet the Father of this Fund early taught the Perverſion of it, in which he has been faithfully and ſucceſsfully copied by his Succeſſors in Power.

II. The Intereſt of the Debts incurred before *Chriſtmas* 1716, was at a higher Rate than Money might afterwards have been procured; and therefore the Public has been a Loſer by the Miſapplication of this Fund, in ſo much as the Difference amounted betwixt the former and the then preſent Rate of Intereſt. This is ſo obvious a Truth, that no Pains need be taken to make it more evident.

But if it ſhould here be argued, "That now, when the "Intereſt of the Old Debts is reduced to an Equality with "that of the New, the ſame Anſwer loſes it's Force, and "it muſt be indifferent, with regard to the Public, whether "the Supplies be raiſed by new Taxes, or by detaching "the Surplus of the Old;" the Reply is, That by this Manner of Reaſoning it is alſo indifferent whether we continue in Debt, with an additional Burden upon us, greater than is required for the current Service in Time of Peace, or, by annually leſſening that Burden, procure Eaſe for Poſterity, and with it an Ability of furniſhing Money for extraordinary Occaſions, whenever they ſhall happen. —A Poſition which fully ſhews the Abſurdity of the former, from which however it naturally flows!——In a Word, it is not difficult to demonſtrate, that this Nation can never flouriſh 'till the Old Debts are diſcharged, and a Method is found of raiſing the Supplies for every Year within the Compaſs of that Year.

LONDON.

Wedneſday being kept for his Majeſty's Birth-Day, there was a brilliant Appearance at Court of the Nobility, foreign Miniſters and Gentry, to compliment his Majeſty, among whom was his Excellency the Earl of Hyndford, Ambaſſador to the Court of Ruſſia, who made his Appearance there in a Chariot and Bay Horſes, given him as a Preſent by the Empreſs Queen, which are eſteemed very beautiful.—The ſame Day, being the Birth-Day of Prince William-Henry, who then entered into the 8th Year of his Age, their Royal Highneſſes received the Compliments of the Nobility, &c. at Leiceſter-houſe. At Night there was a Ball at Court for the Ladies, when Prince George and Princeſs Auguſta opened it.

ODE *for his Majesty's Birth-Day*, 1750.

By COLLEY CIBBER, *Esq;*

Recitative, by Mr. Wass.

GREAT Patriot Prince!
Of Race sublime,
In whom the Streams Imperial meet
Of Brunswick and Plantagenet,
Heroic, in the Rolls of Time.

Chorus.

Accept, in Duty to the Day,
The humble for the worthy Lay.

Air, by Mr. Mence.

Not the fond Mother's Eye, from Shore,
Can the high beating Waves explore,
More anxious for a Son's Return,
Than when to distant Realms remov'd,
With filial fond Desire belov'd,
Our Hearts for thee, Augustus, burn.

Recitative, Mr. Beard.

Behold! behold! the Seas and Wind,
Blest Britain to thy Vows are kind;
Again has *Cæsar* touch'd thy Shore,
And sighing Sadness is no more.

Air.

When *Cæsar*'s Presence glads our Eyes,
Our joyous Suns more radiant rise;
Returning Springs embloom the Field,
And happier Harvests Autumns yield;
Not Peace to harrass'd Worlds more dear,
Than, after Absence, *Cæsar* here.

Recitative, by Mr. Wass.

While Rome a *Cæsar* less endear'd,
Enroll'd among her Gods preferr'd,
The greatest Good her Subjects saw,
Was that their Monarch's Will was Law.

Air.

But Liberty, which *George* sustains,
Postpones the Praise of Roman Reigns,
Tho' Wars may Right of Crowns assign,
'Tis Virtue forms the Right divine.

Duet, by Mr. Wass and Mr. Bailey.

Thus may triumphant Britain sing,
With greater Truth her greater King.

Chorus.

That long his Days high Heaven may spare,
Is our first fervent Morning Pray'r;
To this we quaff the Evening Bowl,
'Till Suns beneath our Ocean roll.

The Right Hon. the Lord North and Guilford is appointed, by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Tutor to Prince George, eldest Son of his Royal Highness, the Apartments being ordered to be fitted up for that Purpose at his Lordship's House in Grosvenor Square.

Sunday last the Right Rev. Dr. Thomas Secker, Bishop of Oxford, kissed his Majesty's Hand, on his being appointed Dean of St. Paul's, in the room of Dr. Butler, made Bishop of Durham. Wednesday next is appointed for the Installation of his Grace to the Deanery of St. Paul's.

At a Court of Common Council held on Thursday at Guildhall, Leave was given to the Committee, to whom it was referred, to borrow a Sum of Money not exceeding 25000l. towards paying off Part of the Orphan's Debt, at the Rate of Three 1-3d per Cent.

It was agreed to let the Ground whereon the Foundery now stands, for 32 Years, (the Time it continues in the City's Hands) to the Gentlemen who petitioned for it with Design to build thereon an Hospital for Lunatics, at 10l. per Ann. and 100l. Fine.

At the same Time the Bill for empowering the Court of Alderman to grant Licenses to Foreigners to work in the City was read a third Time; and Debates arising, and some Alterations being proposed, the Consideration thereof was adjourned to the next Court of Common-Council.

A Motion was made, agreed to, and referred to the Committee, to whom the Scrivener's Bill was referred, to inspect the several Bye-Laws of this City, and report the Expence it would be to print them.

On Monday last a Letter directed to the Lord Mayor of this City was dropt in Guildhall, which was taken up and carried to Thomas Winterbottom, Esq; the Siting Alderman. The Tendency of it was to deter the Lord Mayor and the Court of Common Council, from passing into an Act a Bill now before them, which is designed to relieve the Masters of this City, and can no ways prejudice the Free Journeymen.

Wednesday a Wardmote was held by Sir Robert Ladbroke, Knt. Alderman of Castle-Baynard Ward, for the Election of a Common-Councilman, in the room of the late Mr. Deputy Hunt, when Mr. John Wilson, an eminent Grocer in St. Paul's Churchyard, was chosen without Opposition.

On Saturday last was argued in his Majesty's Court of King's Bench at Westminster, an Affair of great Consequence to this City, upon an Action brought at the Suit of Sir John Bosworth, the Chamberlain, at the Instance of the worshipful Company of Scriveners, against Mr. John Alexander, an Attorney in Threadneedle-street, for exercising the Art or Mystery of a Scrivener, not being a Freeman, when the Court was pleased to declare their Opinion in favour of the City of London.

This Week the Remainder of the Interest due on the Seven per Cent. Emperor's Loan, was paid off; and in July next, Fifty per Cent. of the Capital with the Interest due thereon, will be likewise paid off.

The India Company are raising a great Number of Men to be shipped on board their Outward-bound Ships, for the Reinforcement of their Forts in India.

The Treasurer of the New Bridge at Westminster is to pay to the Rulers of the Watermen's Company, and the Stewards of the Chests at Westminster, the Sum of 25000 l. to be laid out in some of the Funds secured by Parliament, to maintain the Poor of the said Chests, which used to be done by the Watermen working over the River Thames on Sundays, appropriating their Gettings for that Purpose.

Twelve Watchmen are appointed by the Commissioners of Westminster Bridge to do Duty every Night on the said Bridge, to prevent Robberies and Irregularities, and that 32 Lamps are to be fixed on it; it being to be opened To-morrow.

A Subscription is carrying on by the Nobility and Gentry, for raising a Monument in Westminster Abbey, to that great Poet, Alexander Pope, Esq;

The Distemper which has so long raged among the Horned Cattle, is so far from being abated in the County of Surry, (where it first began) that within a few Days past, divers Gentlemen and Farmers have lost several Cows, and are fearful of a further Progress by that Contagion.

We hear from Bath, that they are still greatly thronged with Company, on account of the Want of Horses to bring them to Town, many being ill of the Distemper.

On opening some of the Horses, who have died of the Distemper, it has been observed that almost their whole Mass of Blood was turned to Corruption.

A Receipt to cure a Horse *of a Cough or Cold.*

Take a Quart of Ale or Strong Beer, warm it, and put thereto a Quarter of a Pound of Treacle or Molasses, and a Quarter of a Pint of distilled Annifeed Water; stir it well together, and give it the Horse at Night after his ordinary Food. The next Morning give him a Pail of warm Water, with a handful or two of Beans; and let this be repeated 'till the Horse be cured.—Note, It will cure an Ox or a Cow.

Extract of a Letter from on board the Assistance Man of War, at Portsmouth, Nov. 7.

"The 19th ult. being off the North Foreland, the Man at the Helm cried out, he saw a Boat off to the Eastward, seemingly full of Men; upon which we took our Glasses, and plainly perceived one in the Bow of the Boat, standing up, and waving an Handkerchief, as a Signal of Distress. The Captain immediately ordered the Ship to be flung to, that they might come up with us, which in about half an Hour's Time they did. When the Boat came on board, there were in her thirteen Men and a Boy, and surely nothing could appear greater Objects of Compassion than these poor People. The Account their Master gave us of this melancholy Affair, was as follows: He said his Name was Gabriel Aspatoon, and was Master of the Lekat, a Vessel of 300 Tons, bound to Lisbon from Carelshaven in Sweden, laden with Deal Planks: That the Night before, his Vessel had ran ashore on a Sand to the Eastward (by his Account the Goodwin) about Seven o'Clock: That they had all continued on board (after having cut away the Masts) 'till the Ship parted, when they betook themselves to the Mercy of the Wind and Waves; which would inevitably have drove them out to Sea, had we not just at that Instant, luckily appeared in Sight; this so animated them, that they once more betook themselves to rowing, and had the good Fortune to be perceived by us. No Words can express, the Joy that succeeded the former Despair of these unhappy People, when they were told, that they should be taken on board, and have their Wants supplied, as well as those of one of their wounded Comrades, who had lost his Foot, in assisting to launch the Boat off the Brooms, when their Vessel parted. Our worthy Commander, Capt. Buckle, not content with barely saving the Lives of these poor Wretches, ordered them all the Accommodations that could be provided for them, and supplied the wounded Man, from his own Table, with such Refreshments and Diet, as his Circumstances required, his Leg being obliged to be amputated.

Upon our Arrival at Helvoetsluys, whereto we were bound, we put the Master and the People on board a Schooner bound to Rotterdam; except the wounded Man, who remains on board, and is in a fair way of doing well."

Capt. Theophilus Wright, who superintended the [illegible] ham and Carteret Busses, during the whole Course of [illegible] Fishing, is arrived in Town, to make his Report to [illegible] Society. He has brought near 50 Barrels of pickled [illegible] rings with him.

Tuesday a Reprieve went from the Secretary of W[illegible] Office for the two Matrosses, who were ordered to be [illegible] for Desertion.

Wednesday a Man was found drowned in Tower Di[illegible] by the Wharf. He was heard to cry out by some P[illegible] in the Tower, but could give him no Assistance.

Last Saturday died at Malden in Essex, aged 30 Y[illegible] Mr. Edward Bright, an eminent Shopkeeper in that T[illegible] he was supposed to be the largest Man living, or p[illegible] that ever lived in this Island: He weighed Forty[illegible] Stone and an Half, Horseman's Weight; and not [illegible] very tall, his Body was of an astonishing Bulk, and [illegible] Legs were as big as a middling Man's Body. He w[illegible] active Man 'till a Year or two before his Death, whe[illegible] Corpulency so overpower'd his Strength, that his Li[illegible] a Burthen, and his Death a Deliverance. His Coffi[illegible] three Feet six Inches over the Shoulders, six Feet [illegible] Inches long and three Foot deep; and a way was cut [illegible] the Wall and Staircase, to let the Corpse down into [illegible] Shop; then it was drawn upon a Carriage to the Chu[illegible] and let down into the Vault by the Help of a Slide [illegible] Pulleys.

Notwithstanding the almost total Defeat of public Gam[illegible] occasioned by the Vigilance of the Magistrates of Weste[illegible] ster, yet the Spirit of Gaming still survives; for we h[illegible] that two new Tables are now making, and will be set [illegible] the Surry Shore, for the Entertainment of Thieves, Co[illegible] blers, &c. But it is to be hoped, that the Justices of [illegible] County will make them share the same Fate they did [illegible] the Middlesex Side.

Last Monday Night a Boy about five Years old, belon[illegible] ing to Mr. Derham of the King's Arms in St. Mart[illegible] Court, St. Martin's Lane, was decoyed from the Door [illegible] a Fellow and a Woman into Vine Street, near Cov[illegible] Garden, and there stripped naked, and sent away to [illegible] for himself.

Last Monday Night some Villains attempted to br[illegible] into the the Academy, by the Haberdasher's Hospit[illegible] Hoxton, but being overheard by the Master, he discha[illegible] a Fowling Piece, which, (by the Blood upon the Groun[illegible] 'tis supposed killed one of them, but his Accomplices [illegible] ried him off.

We hear that five Men have been taken up, and co[illegible] mitted to New Prison, on the Information of an Acco[illegible] plice taken in the Hamper, in a House in the New Bu[illegible] ings, Grosvenor-Square, mentioned in our last.

Tuesday two young Fellows were taken at a House [illegible] Whitechapel Turnpike, charged with Burglaries co[illegible] mitted by them and others; one was admitted as E[illegible] dence, and committed to New Prison, the other to N[illegible] gate.

On Monday Evening as Mr. Jackson, a Farmer, [illegible] returning to his House near Guildford in Surry, he w[illegible] attacked between Clapham and Balaam by two Footp[illegible] who robbed him of 17s. and a Pair of Silver Buckles, w[illegible] which they made off towards Croydon.

Last Sunday Evening Mr. Gage, Blockmaker, at Sto[illegible] Thames, was attack'd near the Maypole in Tooley-Str[illegible] by five Persons armed, one of which, upon his calling o[illegible] Thieves, discharged a Pistol, the Bullet of which went [illegible] at the Skirt of his Court, and lodged in the Wadding th[illegible] of; and another gave him a cut on the Arm, and one [illegible] the Shoulder, and he now lies under the Care of a Surge[illegible] One of the Villains was taken upon the Outcry, and [illegible] to Jail, and has since impeached his Confederates.

On Sunday a Man well dressed, in Boots, picked [illegible] Pockets of several Persons in St. Dunstan's Church [illegible] Fleetstreet; and going with him to the Compter, he w[illegible] rescued in St. Paul's Church-Yard by a Gang of Fellow[illegible] who carried him off in Triumph.

By the last Accounts received from Antigua, we are [illegible] formed of the Death of Ensign Wm. Bruce, who was [illegible] in a Duel by one Mr. Richardson, of that Island.

Extract of a Letter Paris, Nov. 5. *O. S.*

"Letters from Toulon say, that, including the Ship[illegible] upon the Stocks, which will be speedily finished, they ha[illegible] 27 Men of War there complete.

We hear that there is great Objection made at London [illegible] the Claim of 156690 French Livres, made by our Com[illegible] for the Expence it was at in transporting the English Gar[illegible] son, which was at Louisburgh when the French resto[illegible] Possession thereof, to Nova Scotia.

BANKRUPTS.

James Walker, of Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, Li[illegible] nendraper and Chapman.

Jonathan Ellis, of Sheffield, in the County of York, Cordwainer.

Charles Cave, of Whitechapel, Middlesex, Dealer and Chapman.

Wm Walker, of Moorfields, Middlesex, Dyer.

John Adderley, of Gloucester, Middlesex, Oilman and Colourman.

Mrs. Keith's Corpſe was removed from her Huſband's Houſe in May-Fair the Middle of October 1749, to an Apartment in South Audley Street, where ſhe lies in a Room hung with Mourning, and is to continue there till Mr. Keith can attend her Funeral. ——Several Perſons, belonging to Churches and Chapels, together with many Others, ſuppoſing the Marriages at May Fair New Chapel to be detrimental to their Intereſt, have made it their Buſineſs to rave and clamour, but in ſuch a Manner as not to deſerve an Anſwer, becauſe every Thing they have ſaid is only to expoſe their own Ignorance and Malice, in the Opinion of People of good Senſe and Underſtanding.—The Way to Mr. Keith's Chapel is thro' Piccadilly, by the End of St. James's-Street, and down Clarges-Street, and turn on the Left Hand. The Marriages (together with a Licence on a Five Shilling Stamp, and Certificate) are carried on for a Guinea, as uſual, any Time 'till four in the After-noon, by another regular Clergyman, at Mr. Keith's Little Chapel in May Fair, near Hyde-Park-Corner, oppoſite the Great Chapel, and within Ten Yards of it. There is a Porch at the Door like a Country Church Porch.

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